Updating Smoking Definitions



Purpose

From 2017-2021, the Orange County Tobacco Use Prevention Program (TUPP) worked with cities in Orange County to update their definitions of smoking to include electronic devices, as well as synthetic and plant substances, including marijuana.



Why?



Tobacco products have continued to evolve over the years to attract new customers and get around smoking bans. Updating the definitions of smoking to include electronic devices, as well as synthetic and plant substances, (including marijuana), ensures that wherever a city prohibits smoking, the public is safe from the emissions of these devices and substances. It also helps ensure that the act of smoking in public does not become normalized again.

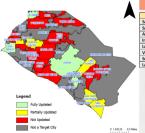
What was done to achieve the goal?

- Identified 21 cities which could update their definitions.
- Provided model language to each city.
- Coordinated with existing efforts from community members and partners working in the areas.
- Provided certificates of appreciation to each city that updated their definition.



At the end of the project, 5 cities-Aliso Viejo, Irvine, La Habra, Seal Beach, Villa Park- fully updated their definitions. Another 4 cities-Garden Grove, Lake Forest, San Clemente, San Juan Capistranopartially updated their definitions.









Lessons Learned and Recommendations

- Prioritize cities based on what is missing from the definition.
- City residents need to be involved and communicate their interest in secondhand smoke protections to city decision makers.
- working in the area. Provide model language to the city councils on what to include in their smoking definition.

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